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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : C07D 487/04, A61K 31/445, C07D 471/04, 405/06, 401/04, 513/04, 405/14, 401/06, 211/14, 211/18, 211/30, 211/58, 211/88, 401/12, 211/34</p>	<p>A1</p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/45011 (43) International Publication Date: 10 September 1999 (10.09.99)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP99/01308 (22) International Filing Date: 26 February 1999 (26.02.99) (30) Priority Data: 98200700.7 6 March 1998 (06.03.98) EP (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA N.V. [BE/BE]; Turnhoutseweg 30, B-2340 Beerse (BE). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): LUYTEN, Walter, Her- man, Maria, Louis [BE/BE]; Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V., Turnhoutseweg 30, B-2340 beerse (BE). JANSSENS, Frans, Eduard [BE/BE]; Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V., Turnhout- seweg 30, B-2340 Beerse (BE). KENNIS, Ludo, Edmond, Josephine [BE/BE]; Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V., Turnhout- seweg 30, B-2340 Beerse (BE).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published <i>With international search report.</i></p>
<p>(54) Title: GLYCINE TRANSPORT INHIBITORS</p> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>The present invention is concerned with the use of glycine transport inhibiting α,α-diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamides for the preparation of medicaments for treating disorders of the central and peripheral nervous system, in particular psychoses, pain, epilepsy, neurodegenerative diseases (Alzheimer's disease), stroke, head trauma, multiple sclerosis and the like. The invention further comprises novel compounds, their preparation and their pharmaceutical forms.</p>		

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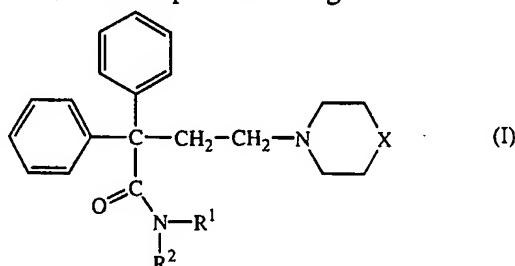
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GLYCINE TRANSPORT INHIBITORS

The present invention is concerned with the use of glycine transport inhibiting α,α -diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamides for the preparation of medicaments for treating disorders of the central and peripheral nervous system, in particular psychoses, pain, epilepsy, neurodegenerative diseases (Alzheimer's disease), stroke, head trauma, multiple sclerosis and the like. The invention further comprises novel compounds, their preparation and their pharmaceutical forms.

N,N-Dimethyl- α,α -diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamides such as 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-hydroxy-*N,N*-dimethyl- α,α -diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamide (loperamide, Imodium™) are well-known anti-diarrhoeal products. These compounds, their activity and preparation were first disclosed in US-3,714,159.

The present invention is concerned with the use of glycine transport inhibiting compounds for the preparation of medicaments for treating disorders of the central and peripheral nervous system, said compounds having the formula



the *N*-oxides, the stereochemically isomeric forms and the pharmaceutically acceptable addition salts thereof, wherein

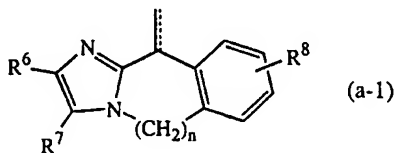
R^1 and R^2 each independently represent hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

X represents a radical of formula

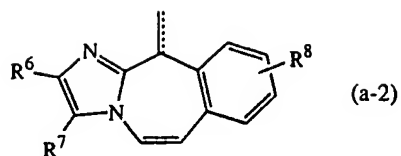


wherein the dotted line represents an optional bond;

$\cdots R^3$ represents a radical of formula



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wherein R^6 and R^7 each represent hydrogen or both may be taken together with the two carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a phenyl ring;

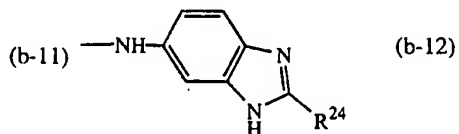
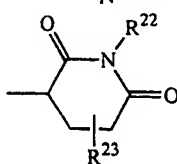
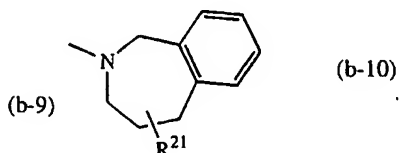
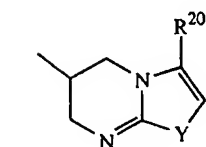
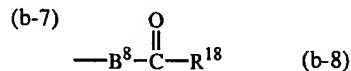
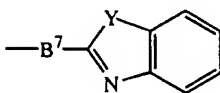
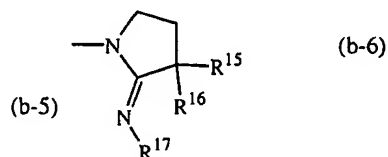
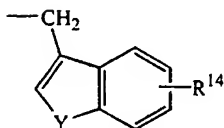
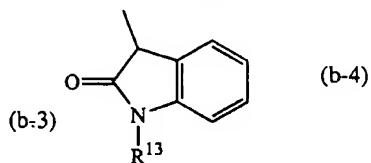
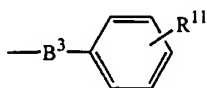
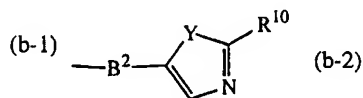
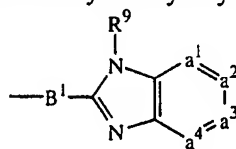
5

R^8 represents hydrogen or halo;

n is 1 or 2;

R^4 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-4} alkyloxy, C_{1-4} alkyloxy C_{1-4} alkyl, or aryl- C_{1-4} alkyloxy;

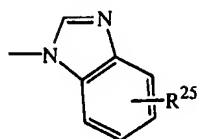
R^5 represents diarylmethyloxy C_{1-4} alkyl or a radical of formula



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(b-13)

wherein B^1 represents $-CH_2-$, $-CH(OH)-$, $-NH-$, $-CH_2-NH-$ or a direct bond;

B^2 represents $-NH-$, $-CH_2-$ or a direct bond;

B^3 represents $-NR^{12}-$, $-CH_2-$, $-C(=O)-$ or a direct bond;

5 B^7 represents $-C_{1-4}alkanediy-NH-$ or $-NH-C_{1-4}alkyl-$;

B^8 represents $-NR^{19}-$, $-CH_2-$ or $-CH(aryl)-$;

each Y independently represents O or S;

$-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ represents a bivalent radical of formula

$-CH=CH-CH=CH-$ (b-1-a) or

10 $-N=CH-N=CH-$ (b-1-b);

wherein a hydrogen atom in radical (b-1-a) may be replaced by hydroxy;

R^9 represents $C_{1-4}alkyl$; or $C_{1-4}alkyl$ substituted with aryl, thienyl, furanyl, furanyl substituted with hydroxy $C_{1-4}alkyl$, or thiazolyl;

15 R^{10} represents aryl, arylamino, $C_{1-4}alkylamino$, $C_{1-4}alkylthio$;

R^{11} represents hydrogen, $C_{1-4}alkyl$, halo or trifluoromethyl;

R^{12} represents hydrogen or $C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyl$;

R^{13} represents hydrogen, $C_{1-4}alkyl$ or aryl;

R^{14} represents hydrogen or halo;

20 R^{15} and R^{16} each independently represent hydrogen or aryl;

R^{17} represents hydrogen or $C_{1-4}alkyl$;

R^{18} represents aryl, 10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl or

$C_{1-4}alkyl$ optionally substituted with one or two substituents each independently selected from $C_{3-7}cycloalkyl$ and aryl;

25 R^{19} represents hydrogen, $C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyl$ or diaryl $C_{1-4}alkyl$;

R^{20} , R^{21} , R^{22} and R^{23} each independently represent hydrogen, $C_{1-4}alkyl$ or aryl;

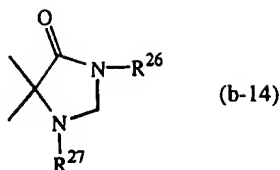
R^{24} represents hydrogen or trifluoromethyl;

30 R^{25} represents hydrogen or halo; and

in case R^5 represents a radical of formula (b-3), then R^4 may also be phenyl- $C_{1-4}alkylaminocarbonyl$; and

R^4 and R^5 may be taken together to form a spiro radical of formula

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wherein R^{26} and R^{27} each independently represent hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl or aryl C_{1-4} alkyl;

5 aryl represents phenyl, or phenyl substituted with 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, halo, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy and C_{1-4} alkyloxy.

The present invention also relates to a method of treating warm-blooded animals suffering from disorders of the central and peripheral nervous system, in particular psychoses, pain, epilepsy, neurodegenerative diseases (Alzheimer's disease), stroke,
10 head trauma, multiple sclerosis and the like. Said method comprises the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) or a *N*-oxide form, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salt or a stereochemically isomeric form thereof in admixture with a pharmaceutical carrier.

15 As used in the foregoing definitions and hereinafter, halo is generic to fluoro, chloro, bromo and iodo; C_{3-7} cycloalkyl is generic to cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and cycloheptyl; C_{1-4} alkyl defines straight and branched chain saturated hydrocarbon radicals having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms such as, for example, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, 1-methylethyl, 2-methylpropyl, 2,2-dimethylethyl and the like;
20 C_{1-4} alkanediyl defines bivalent straight and branched chain saturated hydrocarbon radicals having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms such as, for example, 1,1-methanediyl, 1,2-ethanediyl, 1,3-propanediyl, 1,4-butanediyl, 1,2-propanediyl, 2,3-butanediyl and the like.

25 The pharmaceutically acceptable addition salts as mentioned hereinabove are meant to comprise the therapeutically active non-toxic base and acid addition salt forms which the compounds of formula (I) are able to form. The acid addition salt form of a compound of formula (I) that occurs in its free form as a base can be obtained by treating said free base form with an appropriate acid such as an inorganic acid, for
30 example, hydrohalic acid, e.g. hydrochloric or hydrobromic, sulfuric, nitric, phosphoric and the like acids; or an organic acid, such as, for example, acetic, hydroxyacetic, propanoic, lactic, pyruvic, oxalic, malonic, succinic, maleic, fumaric, malic, tartaric, citric, methanesulfonic, ethanesulfonic, benzenesulfonic, *p*-toluenesulfonic, cyclamic, salicylic, *p*-aminosalicylic, pamoic and the like acids.

35

The compounds of formula (I) containing acidic protons may be converted into their therapeutically active non-toxic base, *i.e.* metal or amine, addition salt forms by treatment with appropriate organic and inorganic bases. Appropriate base salt forms comprise, for example, the ammonium salts, the alkali and earth alkaline metal salts, 5 e.g. the lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium salts and the like, salts with organic bases, e.g. the benzathine, *N*-methyl-D-glucamine, hydrabamine salts, and salts with amino acids such as, for example, arginine, lysine and the like.

Conversely said salt forms can be converted into the free forms by treatment with an 10 appropriate base or acid.

The term addition salt as used hereinabove also comprises the solvates which the compounds of formula (I) as well as the salts thereof, are able to form. Such solvates are for example hydrates, alcoholates and the like. 15

The *N*-oxide forms of the compounds of formula (I) are meant to comprise those compounds of formula (I) wherein the piperidine nitrogen atom is oxidized to the *N*-oxide.

The term "stereochemically isomeric forms" as used herein defines all the possible 20 stereoisomeric forms of the compounds of formula (I). Unless otherwise mentioned or indicated, the chemical designation of compounds denotes the mixture, and in particular the racemic mixture, of all possible stereochemically isomeric forms, said mixture containing all diastereomers and enantiomers of the basic molecular structure. Stereochemically isomeric forms of the compounds of formula (I) and mixtures of such 25 forms are obviously intended to be encompassed by formula (I).

In particular, the compounds of formula (I) and some of their intermediates have at least one stereogenic center in their structure. This stereogenic center may be present in a R or a S configuration, said R and S notation is used in correspondance with the rules 30 described in Pure Appl. Chem., 1976, 45, 11-30.

Some of the compounds of formula (I) may also exist in their tautomeric forms. Such forms although not explicitly indicated in the above formula are intended to be 35 included within the scope of the present invention.

Whenever used hereinafter, the term compounds of formula (I) is meant to include also the *N*-oxides, the pharmaceutically acceptable addition salts and all stereoisomeric forms.

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The present compounds of formula (I) are deemed novel provided that when R⁴ is hydrogen and R⁵ is a radical of formula (b-1) wherein B¹ is -CH₂- and R⁹ is 4-fluorobenzyl, then -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- is other than -CH=CH-CH=CH-; and when R⁴ is hydrogen and R⁵ is a radical of formula (b-1) wherein B¹ is -NH- and R⁹ is 4-methoxybenzyl, then -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- is other than -CH=N-CH=N-. The present invention also relates to said novel compounds of formula (I) for use as a medicine.

Suitably, R⁵ is diarylmethyloxyC₁₋₄alkyl or a radical of formula (b-2), (b-3), (b-4), (b-5), (b-6), (b-7), (b-8), (b-9), (b-10), (b-11), (b-12) or (b-13); or R⁵ may be taken together with R⁴ to form a spiro radical of formula (b-14).

An interesting group of compounds are those compounds of formula (I) wherein R¹ and R² are methyl.

Particular compounds are those compounds of formula (I) wherein X represents a radical of formula (a), more in particular, a radical of formula (a) wherein R⁶ and R⁷ are taken together with the two carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a phenyl ring.

Other particular compounds are those compounds of formula (I) wherein X represents a radical of formula (b) wherein R⁵ is a radical of formula (b-1), and preferably, R⁹ represents C₁₋₄alkyl substituted with aryl, especially wherein R⁹ is 4-fluorobenzyl.

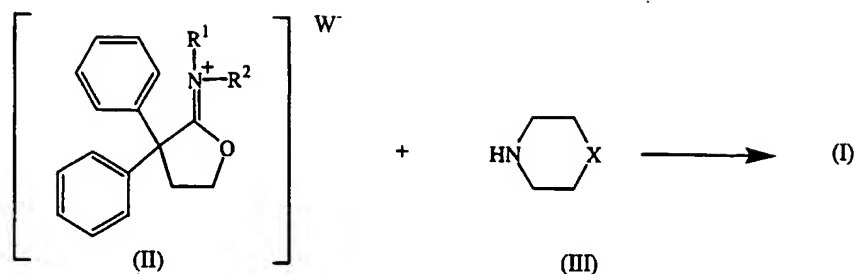
Yet other particular compounds are those compounds of formula (I) wherein X represents a radical of formula (b) wherein R⁵ is a radical of formula (b-2), and preferably Y is S.

Preferred compounds are :

4-(11,12-dihydro-6H-benzimidazo[2,1-b][3]benzazepin-6-yl)-N,N-dimethyl- α,α -diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamide;
4-[[1-[(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]hydroxymethyl]-N,N-dimethyl- α,α -diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamide; the N-oxides, the stereochemically isomeric forms and the pharmaceutically acceptable addition salts thereof.

In general, the compounds of formula (I) can be prepared according to reaction procedures described in US 3,714,159, US-4,695,575 and US-5,008,268, more in particular, by reacting an intermediate of formula (II) wherein W is an appropriate counter ion such as, for example, a halogen, or a functional derivative thereof with an intermediate of formula (III).

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Said reaction may be performed in a reaction-inert solvent such as, for example, methylisobutyl keton, *N,N*-dimethylacetamide or *N,N*-dimethylformamide, in the presence of a suitable base such as, for example, sodium carbonate, sodium bicarbonate or triethylamine, and optionally in the presence of potassium iodide.

In this and the following preparations, the reaction products may be isolated from the reaction medium and, if necessary, further purified according to methodologies generally known in the art such as, for example, extraction, crystallization, distillation, trituration and chromatography.

The compounds of formula (I) can also be converted into each other following art-known procedures of functional group transformation.

The compounds of formula (I) may also be converted to the corresponding *N*-oxide forms following art-known procedures for converting a trivalent nitrogen into its *N*-oxide form. Said *N*-oxidation reaction may generally be carried out by reacting the starting material of formula (I) with 3-phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)oxaziridine or with an appropriate organic or inorganic peroxide. Appropriate inorganic peroxides comprise, for example, hydrogen peroxide, alkali metal or earth alkaline metal peroxides, e.g. sodium peroxide, potassium peroxide; appropriate organic peroxides may comprise peroxy acids such as, for example, benzenecarboperoxoic acid or halo substituted benzenecarboperoxoic acid, e.g. 3-chlorobenzenecarboperoxoic acid, peroxyalkanoic acids, e.g. peroxyacetic acid, alkylhydroperoxides, e.g. *t*-butyl hydroperoxide. Suitable solvents are, for example, water, lower alkanols, e.g. ethanol and the like, hydrocarbons, e.g. toluene, ketones, e.g. 2-butanone, halogenated hydrocarbons, e.g. dichloromethane, and mixtures of such solvents.

Some of the compounds of formula (I) and some of the intermediates in the present invention may contain an asymmetric carbon atom. Pure stereochemically isomeric forms of said compounds and said intermediates can be obtained by the application of art-known procedures. For example, diastereoisomers can be separated by physical

methods such as selective crystallization or chromatographic techniques, e.g. counter current distribution, liquid chromatography and the like methods. Enantiomers can be obtained from racemic mixtures by first converting said racemic mixtures with suitable resolving agents such as, for example, chiral acids, to mixtures of diastereomeric salts or compounds; then physically separating said mixtures of diastereomeric salts or compounds by, for example, selective crystallization or chromatographic techniques, e.g. liquid chromatography and the like methods; and finally converting said separated diastereomeric salts or compounds into the corresponding enantiomers. Pure stereochemically isomeric forms may also be obtained from the pure stereochemically isomeric forms of the appropriate intermediates and starting materials, provided that the intervening reactions occur stereospecifically.

An alternative manner of separating the enantiomeric forms of the compounds of formula (I) and intermediates involves liquid chromatography, in particular liquid chromatography using a chiral stationary phase.

Some of the intermediates and starting materials are known compounds and may be commercially available or may be prepared according to art-known procedures.

Glycine is an amino acid neurotransmitter in the central and peripheral nervous system, both at inhibitory and excitatory synapses. These distinct functions of glycine are mediated by two types of receptor, each of which is associated with a different class of glycine transporter. The inhibitory actions of glycine are mediated by glycine receptors that are sensitive to the convulsant alkaloid strychnine, and are therefore referred to as 'strychnine-sensitive.' Strychnine-sensitive glycine receptors are found predominantly in the spinal cord and brainstem.

Glycine functions in excitatory transmission by modulating the actions of glutamate, the major excitatory neurotransmitter in the nervous system (Johnson and Ascher, Nature, 325, 529-531 (1987); Fletcher et al., Glycine Transmission, (Otterson and Storm-Mathisen, eds., 1990), pp. 193-219). Specifically, glycine is an obligatory co-agonist at the class of glutamate receptor termed N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor. NMDA receptors are widely distributed throughout the brain, with a particularly high density in the cerebral cortex and hippocampal formation.

Transporters take up neurotransmitter from the synapse, thereby regulating the concentration and term of neurotransmitter in the synapse, which together determine the magnitude of synaptic transmission. By preventing the spread of neurotransmitter to

neighboring synapses, transporters maintain the fidelity of synaptic transmission. Last, by re-uptake of released transmitter into the presynaptic terminal, transporters allow for transmitter reutilization. Neurotransmitter transport is dependent on extracellular sodium and the voltage difference across the membrane. Under specific conditions, for example during a seizure, transporters can function in reverse, releasing
5 neurotransmitter in a calciumindependent non-exocytotic manner (Attwell et al., Neuron, 11, 401-407 (1993)). Modulation of neurotransmitter transporters thus provides a means for modifying synaptic activity, which provides useful therapy for the treatment of disturbances of the central and peripheral nervous system.

10 Molecular cloning has revealed the existence of two classes of glycine transporters, termed GlyT-1 and GlyT-2. GlyT-1 is found predominantly in the forebrain, and its distribution corresponds to that of glutamatergic pathways and NMDA receptors (Smith, et al., Neuron, 8, 927-935 (1992)). At least three splice variants of GlyT-1 are known,
15 namely GlyT-1a, GlyT-1b and GlyT-1c (Kim, et al., Molecular Pharmacology, 45, 608-617 (1994)), each of which displays a unique distribution in the brain and peripheral tissues. GlyT-2, in contrast, is found predominantly in the brainstem and spinal cord, and its distribution corresponds closely to that of strychnine-sensitive glycine receptors (Liu et al., J Biological Chemistry, 268, 22802-22808 (1993); Jursky and Nelson,
20 Neurochemistry, 64, 10261033 (1995)). Thus, one can expect that by regulating the synaptic levels of glycine, GlyT-1 and GlyT-2 selectively modulate the activity of NMDA receptors and strychnine-sensitive glycine receptors, respectively.

Compounds that inhibit or activate glycine transporters would thus be expected to alter
25 receptor function, and provide therapeutic benefits in a variety of disease states. Thus, inhibition of GlyT-2 could be used to diminish the activity of neurons having strychnine-sensitive glycine receptors via increasing synaptic levels of glycine, and so diminish the transmission of pain-related (i.e., nociceptive) information in the spinal cord, which has been shown to be mediated by these receptors. Yaksh, Pain, 37,
30 111-123 (1989). Additionally, enhancing inhibitory glycinergic transmission through strychnine-sensitive glycine receptors in the spinal cord can be used to decrease muscle hyperactivity, which is useful in treating diseases or conditions associated with increased muscle contraction, such as spasticity, myoclonus, and epilepsy (Truong et al., Movement Disorders, 3, 77-87 (1988); Becker, FASEB J, 4 2767-2774 (1990)).
35 Spasticity that can be treated via modulation of glycine receptors is associated with epilepsy, stroke, head trauma, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injury, dystonia, and other conditions of illness and injury of the nervous system.

NMDA receptors are involved in memory and learning (Rison and Stanton, Neurosci. Biobehav. Rev., 19, 533-552 (1995); Danysz et al., Behavioral Pharmacol., 6, 455-474 (1995)); and decreased function of NMDA-mediated neurotransmission appears to
5 contribute to the symptoms of schizophrenia (Olney and Farber, Archives General Psychiatry, 52, 998-1007 (1996)). Thus, agents that inhibit GlyT-1 and thereby increase glycine activation of NMDA receptors can be used as novel antipsychotics and anti-dementia agents, and to treat other diseases in which cognitive processes are impaired, such as attention deficit disorders and organic brain syndromes. Conversely,
10 over-activation of NMDA receptors has been implicated in a number of disease states, in particular the neuronal death associated with stroke, head trauma and possibly neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease, multi-infarct dementia, AIDS dementia, Huntington's disease, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or other conditions in which neuronal cell death occurs. Coyle & Puttfarcken, Science,
15 262, 689-695 (1993); Lipton and Rosenberg, New Engl. J. of Medicine, 330, 613-622 (1993); Choi, Neuron 1, 623-634 (1988). Thus, pharmacological agents that increase the activity of GlyT-1 will result in decreased glycine-activation of NMDA receptors, which activity can be used to treat these and related disease states. Similarly, drugs that directly block the glycine site on the NMDA receptors can be used to treat these and
20 related disease states.

For administration purposes, the subject compounds may be formulated into various pharmaceutical compositions comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and, as active ingredient, a therapeutically effective amount of a novel compound of formula
25 (I). To prepare the pharmaceutical compositions of this invention, an effective amount of the particular compound, in addition salt or in free acid or base form, as the active ingredient is combined in intimate admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, which may take a wide variety of forms depending on the form of preparation desired for administration. These pharmaceutical compositions are desirably in unitary
30 dosage form suitable, preferably, for administration orally, percutaneously, or by parenteral injection. For example, in preparing the compositions in oral dosage form, any of the usual pharmaceutical media may be employed, such as, for example, water, glycols, oils, alcohols and the like in the case of oral liquid preparations such as suspensions, syrups, elixirs and solutions; or solid carriers such as starches, sugars,
35 kaolin, lubricants, binders, disintegrating agents and the like in the case of powders, pills, capsules and tablets. Because of their ease in administration, tablets and capsules represent the most advantageous oral dosage unit form, in which case solid

pharmaceutical carriers are obviously employed. For parenteral compositions, the carrier will usually comprise sterile water, at least in large part, though other ingredients, for example, to aid solubility, may be included. Injectable solutions, for example, may be prepared in which the carrier comprises saline solution, glucose
5 solution or a mixture of saline and glucose solution. Injectable solutions containing compounds of formula (I) may be formulated in an oil for prolonged action.

Appropriate oils for this purpose are, for example, peanut oil, sesame oil, cottonseed oil, corn oil, soy bean oil, synthetic glycerol esters of long chain fatty acids and mixtures of these and other oils. Injectable suspensions may also be prepared in which
10 case appropriate liquid carriers, suspending agents and the like may be employed. In the compositions suitable for percutaneous administration, the carrier optionally comprises a penetration enhancing agent and/or a suitable wettable agent, optionally combined with suitable additives of any nature in minor proportions, which additives do not cause any significant deleterious effects on the skin. Said additives may facilitate the
15 administration to the skin and/or may be helpful for preparing the desired compositions. These compositions may be administered in various ways, e.g., as a transdermal patch, as a spot-on or as an ointment. Addition salts of (I) due to their increased water solubility over the corresponding free base or free acid form, are obviously more suitable in the preparation of aqueous compositions.

20 It is especially advantageous to formulate the aforementioned pharmaceutical compositions in dosage unit form for ease of administration and uniformity of dosage. Dosage unit form as used in the specification and claims herein refers to physically discrete units suitable as unitary dosages, each unit containing a predetermined quantity of
25 active ingredient calculated to produce the desired therapeutic effect, in association with the required pharmaceutical carrier. Examples of such dosage unit forms are tablets (including scored or coated tablets), capsules, pills, powder packets, wafers, injectable solutions or suspensions, teaspoonfuls, tablespoonfuls and the like, and segregated multiples thereof.

30 The following examples are intended to illustrate the present invention.

Experimental part

Example A.1

35 A mixture of dimethyl (tetrahydro-3,3-diphenyl-2-furylidene) ammonium bromide (0.01 mol), prepared as described in US 3,714,159, (\pm)-4-(11,12-dihydro-6H-benzimidazo[2,1-b][3]benzazepin-6-yl)-piperidine (0.01 mol), Na₂CO₃ (0.01 mol) and KI (10 mg) in methyl isobutyl keton (200mL) was stirred and refluxed overnight. The

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solvent was evaporated and the residue taken up in water/CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer was separated and the water layer was extracted again with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic layers were dried, filtered and the solvent evaporated. The residue was purified on a glass filter over silica gel (eluent : CH₂Cl₂/CH₃OH 95/5 to 90/10). The pure
5 fractions were collected and evaporated. The residue was crystallized from CH₃CN, yielding 0.88g (15%) of (±)-4-(11,12-dihydro-6*H*-benzimidazo[2,1-*b*][3]benzazepin-6-yl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-α,α-diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamide (comp. 1; mp. 255.3 °C).

Example A.2

To a stirred mixture of 4-(3-bromo-2-oxopropyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-α,α-diphenyl-1-
10 piperidinebutanamide monohydrobromide (13 g) in methanol (80 ml) was added (2,6-dimethylphenyl)thiourea (4.1 g) at 70 °C. Stirring was continued for 1 hour at reflux temperature. The solvent was evaporated and the residue was taken up in water. Potassium carbonate was added until a pH of about 9 and the mixture was extracted with ethylacetate. The organic phase was purified by acid base extraction, dried,
15 filtered and the solvent evaporated. The residue was crystallized from methanol. The precipitate was filtered off, washed and dried, yielding 6.7 g (52 %) of 4-[[2-[[2,6-dimethylphenyl)amino]-4-thiazolyl]methyl]-*N,N*-dimethyl-α,α-diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamide (comp. 47; mp. 210.5 °C).

In an analogous way were prepared :

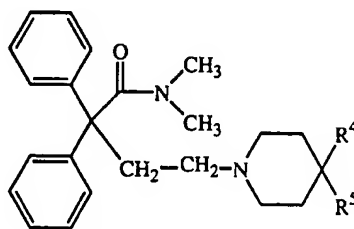
20 4-[[2-[[2,6-dichlorophenyl)amino]-4-thiazolyl]methyl]-*N,N*-dimethyl-α,α-diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamide (comp. 48; mp. 207.0 °C);
N,N-dimethyl-4-[[2-(methylamino)-4-thiazolyl]methyl]-α,α-diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamide (comp. 49; mp. 188.3 °C).

Example A.3

25 To a stirred mixture of NaH (78 % dispersion; 0.55 g) in 1,4-dioxane (50 ml) was added 1-(4-fluorophenyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-4-oxo-α,α-diphenyl-1,3,8-triazaspiro[4,5]-decane-8-butanamide (7.7 g). After stirring for 1 hour at room temperature, the mixture was heated to 60 °C and (chloromethyl)benzene (2.3 g) was added. Stirring was continued overnight at 60 °C. the reaction mixture was poured out onto water and the
30 mixture was extracted with CHCl₃. The extract was washed with water, dried, filtered and the solvent evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel using a mixture of CHCl₃ and 3 % methanol, saturated with gaseous ammonia, as eluent. The pure fractions were collected and the solvent evaporated. The residue was triturated in *n*-hexane. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 2
35 g of 1-(4-fluorophenyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-4-oxo-α,α-diphenyl-3-phenylmethyl-1,3,8-triazaspiro[4,5]decane-8-butanamide (comp. 50; mp. 139.8 °C).

Tables 1 and 2 list compounds which were prepared according to example A.1. Some compounds were prepared using a different base and/or solvent as regards the ones used in example A.1. Also, some compounds were prepared without using KI. The reaction conditions are mentioned in column "reaction conditions" in tables 1 and 2. In said column, MIK means methylisobutyl keton, DMA means *N,N*-dimethylacetamide and DMF means *N,N*-dimethylformamide.

Table 1



Co. No.	R ⁵	R ⁴	Reaction conditions base / KI / solvent	Physical properties : melting point : mp. in °C
1		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 255.3°C
2		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / DMA	mp. 173.7°C
3		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 210.6°C
4		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	
5		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / DMF	mp. 239.0°C; H ₂ O (1:1); HCl (1:2)
6		H	Et ₃ N / - / DMF	mp. 168.8°C; HBr (1:2)
7		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 196.4°C

Co. No.	R ⁵	R ⁴	Reaction conditions base / KI / solvent	Physical properties : melting point : mp. in °C
8		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 128.9°C; H ₂ O (1:1)
9		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 184.5°C
10		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 161.4°C
11		OH	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 170.5°C
12		OH	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 135°C
13			Et ₃ N / - / DMA	mp. 161.3°C; HCl (1:1); H ₂ O (1:1)
14		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 160.7°C; ethanedioate (3:2)
15		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 265.4°C; HBr(2:1)
16		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 139.1°C
17		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 199.4°C
18			Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 111.5-145°C; H ₂ O (2:1)
19		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 188.8°C

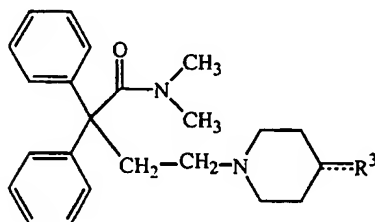
Co. No.	R ⁵	R ⁴	Reaction conditions base / KI / solvent	Physical properties : melting point : mp. in °C
20			Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 111.9°C ; HCl (2:1)
21		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 202-205°C
22		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / DMF	mp. 192.4°C
23		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 156.1°C
24		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 208.9°C (E)-2-butenedioate (1:1)
25		OH	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 257.4°C
26		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 176.2°C; (E)-2-butenedioate (1:1)
27		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 142.7°C
28		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 198.0°C; ethanedioate (1:1)
29		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 133.1-135.1°C; ethanedioate (2:5)
30		H	NaHCO ₃ / - / DMF	mp. 148.7°C; ethanedioate (1:2)
31		H	NaHCO ₃ / - / DMF	mp. 121.8°C

Co. No.	R ⁵	R ⁴	Reaction conditions base / KI / solvent	Physical properties : melting point : mp. in °C
32		H	NaHCO ₃ / - / DMF	mp. 251.0°C
33		OH	Et ₃ N / - / DMF	mp. 183.3°C
34		H	NaHCO ₃ / - / DMF	mp. 257.3°C
35		H	Et ₃ N / - / DMF	mp. 136.5°C; ethanedioate (1:3)
36		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / DMF	mp. 207.4°C; ethanedioate (1:2)
37		OCH ₃	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / DMF	mp. 220.1°C; (E)-2-butenedioate (1:1)
38		OH	NaHCO ₃ / - / DMF	mp. 183.7°C; HCl (2:1); ethanol (1:1)
39		OH	NaHCO ₃ / - / DMF	mp. 198.7°C
40		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / DMA	mp. 183.9°C
41		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / DMA	mp. 201.4°C; (E)-2-butenedioate (2:3)

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Co. No.	R ⁵	R ⁴	Reaction conditions base / KI / solvent	Physical properties : melting point : mp. in °C
42		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / DMF	mp. 177.8°C; (Z)-2-butenedioate (1:2)
43		H	Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / DMF	mp. 190.5°C
53		OH	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 164.5°C
54		-CH ₂ -O-CH ₃	Na ₂ CO ₃ / - / MIK	mp. 155.4°C; HCl (1:1)

Table 2



Co. No.	R ³	Reaction conditions base / KI / solvent	Physical properties : melting point : mp. in °C
44		Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 206.6°C; (E)-2-butenedioate (1:1)
45		Na ₂ CO ₃ / KI / MIK	mp. 174.5°C

Also prepared according to example A.1 but without using KI was 1-(5-chloro-2-methyl-phenyl)-N,N-dimethyl-4-oxo- α,α -diphenyl-1,3,8-triazaspiro[4,5]decane-8-butanamide (comp. 46; mp. 175.7°C).

Pharmacological example

Example B.1: Assay of transport via GlyT1 transporters

Subconfluent HEK 293 -GlyT1 cells (*i.e.* a cell line which stably expresses human glycine transporter 1) were seeded in Cytostar-T plates at a concentration of 50,000 cells per well in 100 μ l DMEM medium (Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium supplemented with 10% foetal bovine serum, 1 mM Na-pyruvate, 2 mM glutamine, 100

U penicillin/ml and 0.1 mg/ml streptomycin). The cells were incubated for 48 hours at 37°C, 5% CO₂, 95% humidity.

On day 3, the cells were washed using a Tecan PW96 microprocessor controlled washer
 5 designed to wash all 96 wells of a microplate simultaneously with uptake buffer (25 mM Hepes, 5.4 mM K-gluconate, 1.8 mM Ca-gluconate, 0.8 mM MgSO₄, 140 mM NaCl, 5 mM glucose, 5 mM alanine, adjusted to pH 7.5 with 2M Tris). The Tecan PW96 was programmed to wash the cells five times leaving 75 µl in each well. The test compounds were dissolved at different concentrations in the micromolar range in
 10 DMSO. 1 µl Test solution was added to each well and the cells were incubated for 5' to 10' at ambient temperature. Then there was added 25 µl 30 µM [U¹⁴C]glycine diluted in uptake buffer. The cells were incubated for 1 hour at ambient temperature. The plates were then sealed and [U¹⁴C]glycine uptake was determined on a Packard microplate scintillation counter (TopCount). From the results obtained for the various
 15 concentrations of each test drug, the concentration giving 50 % inhibition (IC₅₀) of glycine uptake was calculated. Calculated data for the test compounds according to the instant invention are shown in table 3 as pIC₅₀ values (negative log values of the IC₅₀).

Compound 51 being 4-[[1-[(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl)methyl]-
 20 *N,N*-dimethyl- α,α -diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamide as disclosed in US-4,695,575 and compound 52 being 4-[[9-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-9*H*-purin-8-yl]amino]-*N,N*-dimethyl- α,α -diphenyl-1-piperidinebutanamide (E)-2-butenedioate (2:5) as disclosed in US-5,008,268 were also tested.

Table 3

Comp. No.	PIC ₅₀	Comp. No.	PIC ₅₀
1	7.28	28	6.56
2	6.80	29	6.10
3	6.77	30	6.63
4	6.49	31	6.17
5	6.43	32	6.12
6	6.17	33	6.21
7	6.16	34	6.35
8	6.05	35	7.22
9	6.13	36	6.25
10	6.62	37	6.90
11	6.89	38	6.04
12	6.15	39	6.23

Comp. No.	PIC ₅₀
13	6.28
14	6.03
15	6.04
16	6.12
17	6.13
18	6.03
19	6.29
20	6.39
21	6.08
22	6.03
23	6.03
24	6.08
25	6.36
26	6.10
27	6.26

Comp. No.	PIC ₅₀
40	6.36
41	6.52
42	6.12
43	6.12
44	6.70
45	6.00
46	6.27
47	6.79
48	6.54
49	6.12
50	6.60
51	6.91
52	6.47
53	6.39
54	6.61

C. Composition examples

The following formulation exemplifies a typical pharmaceutical composition suitable for systemic administration to animal and human subjects in accordance with the present invention. "Active ingredient" (A.I.) relates to a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable addition salt thereof.

Example C.1 : film-coated tablets

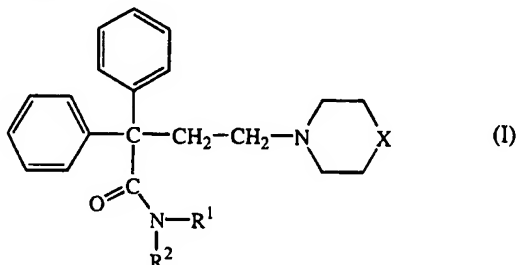
Preparation of tablet core. A mixture of 100 g of the A.I., 570 g lactose and 200 g starch was mixed well and thereafter humidified with a solution of 5 g sodium dodecyl sulfate and 10 g polyvinylpyrrolidone in about 200 ml of water. The wet powder mixture was sieved, dried and sieved again. Then there was added 100 g microcrystalline cellulose and 15 g hydrogenated vegetable oil. The whole was mixed well and compressed into tablets, giving 10.000 tablets, each comprising 10 mg of the active ingredient.

Coating. To a solution of 10 g methyl cellulose in 75 ml of denaturated ethanol there was added a solution of 5 g of ethyl cellulose in 150 ml of dichloromethane. Then there were added 75 ml of dichloromethane and 2.5 ml 1,2,3-propanetriol. 10 g of polyethylene glycol was molten and dissolved in 75 ml of dichloromethane. The latter solution was added to the former and then there were added 2.5 g of magnesium octadecanoate, 5 g of polyvinylpyrrolidone and 30 ml of concentrated color suspension and the whole was homogenated. The tablet cores were coated with the thus obtained mixture in a coating apparatus.

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Claims

1. The use of a glycine transport inhibiting compound for the preparation of a medicament for treating disorders of the central and peripheral nervous system, said compound having the formula

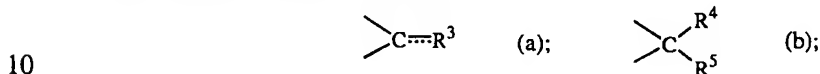


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a *N*-oxide, a stereochemically isomeric form or a pharmaceutically acceptable addition salt thereof, wherein

R^1 and R^2 each independently represent hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

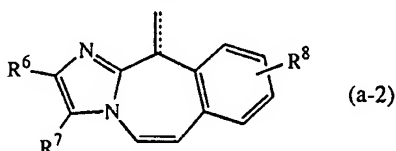
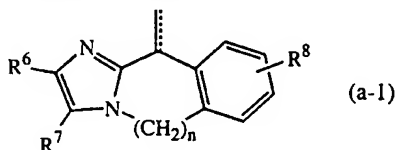
X represents a radical of formula



10

wherein the dotted line represents an optional bond;

$\cdots R^3$ represents a radical of formula



15

wherein R^6 and R^7 each represent hydrogen or both may be taken together with the two carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a phenyl ring;

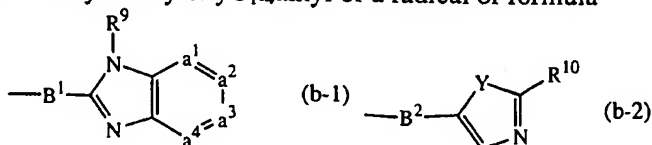
R^8 represents hydrogen or halo;

n is 1 or 2;

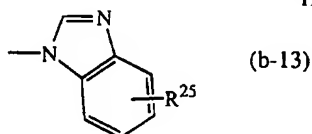
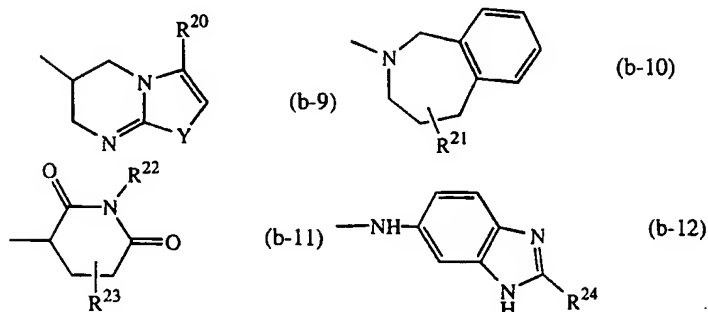
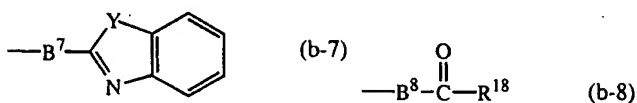
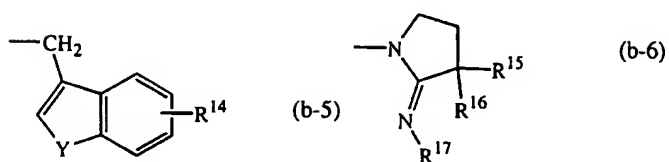
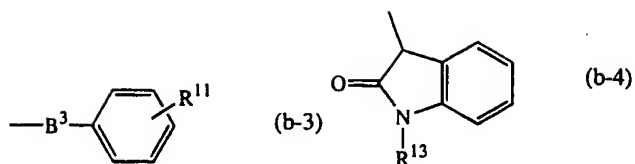
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R^4 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-4} alkyloxy, C_{1-4} alkyloxy C_{1-4} alkyl, or aryl C_{1-4} alkyloxy;

R^5 represents diarylmethyloxy C_{1-4} alkyl or a radical of formula



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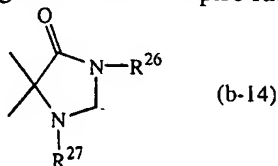


- 10 wherein B¹ represents -CH₂-, -CH(OH)-, -NH-, -CH₂-NH- or a direct bond;
 B² represents -NH-, -CH₂- or a direct bond;
 B³ represents -NR¹²-, -CH₂-, -C(=O)- or a direct bond;
 B⁷ represents -C₁₋₄alkanediyl-NH- or -NH-C₁₋₄alkyl-;
 B⁸ represents -NR¹⁹-, -CH₂- or -CH(aryl)-;
 15 each Y independently represents O or S;
 -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- represents a bivalent radical of formula
 -CH=CH-CH=CH- (b-1-a) or
 -N=CH-N=CH- (b-1-b);
 wherein a hydrogen atom in radical (b-1-a) may be
 20 replaced by hydroxy;
 R⁹ represents C₁₋₄alkyl; or C₁₋₄alkyl substituted with aryl, thienyl,
 furanyl, furanyl substituted with hydroxyC₁₋₄alkyl, or thiazolyl;

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- R^{10} represents aryl, arylamino, C_{1-4} alkylamino, C_{1-4} alkylthio;
 R^{11} represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, halo or trifluoromethyl;
 R^{12} represents hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkylcarbonyl;
 R^{13} represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl or aryl;
 R^{14} represents hydrogen or halo;
 R^{15} and R^{16} each independently represent hydrogen or aryl;
 R^{17} represents hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;
 R^{18} represents aryl, 10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl or
 C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with one or two substituents each
independently selected from C_{3-7} cycloalkyl and aryl;
 R^{19} represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkylcarbonyl or diaryl C_{1-4} alkyl;
 R^{20} , R^{21} , R^{22} and R^{23} each independently represent hydrogen,
 C_{1-4} alkyl or aryl;
 R^{24} represents hydrogen or trifluoromethyl;
 R^{25} represents hydrogen or halo; and

in case R^5 represents a radical of formula (b-3), then R^4 may also be
 phenyl C_{1-4} alkylaminocarbonyl; and
 R^4 and R^5 may be taken together to form a spiro radical of formula



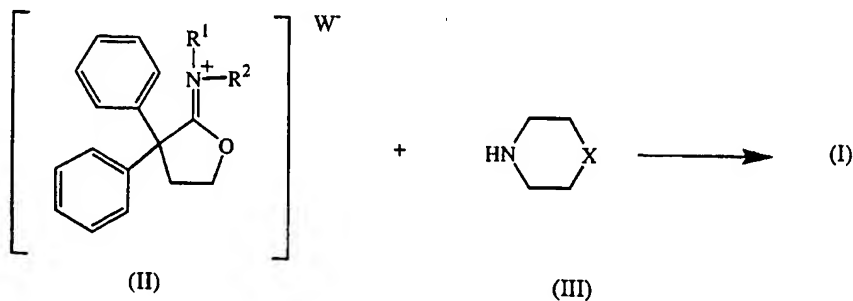
- wherein R^{26} and R^{27} each independently represent hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl
 or aryl C_{1-4} alkyl;

aryl represents phenyl, or phenyl substituted with 1 or 2 substituents independently
 selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, halo, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy and C_{1-4} alkyloxy.

2. The use according to claim 1 wherein R^1 and R^2 are methyl.
3. The use according to claim 1 or 2 wherein X is a radical of formula (a) or (b).
4. The use according to claim 1 wherein the disorder is psychoses, pain, epilepsy, a neurodegenerative diseases, stroke, head trauma or multiple sclerosis.
5. A compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 3 provided that when R^4 is hydrogen and R^5 is a radical of formula (b-1) wherein B^1 is $-CH_2-$ and R^9 is 4-fluorobenzyl, then $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ is other than $-CH=CH-CH=CH-$; and when R^4 is

hydrogen and R⁵ is a radical of formula (b-1) wherein B¹ is -NH- and R⁹ is 4-methoxybenzyl, then -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- is other than -CH=N-CH=N-.

6. A compound as claimed in claim 5 wherein R⁵ is diarylmethyloxyC₁₋₄alkyl or a radical of formula (b-2), (b-3), (b-4), (b-5), (b-6), (b-7), (b-8), (b-9), (b-10), (b-11), (b-12) or (b-13); or R⁵ may be taken together with R⁴ to form a spiro radical of formula (b-14).
7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and as active ingredient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as described in claims 5 or 6.
8. A process of preparing a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as claimed in claims 5 or 6 is intimately mixed with a pharmaceutical carrier.
9. A compound as described in claims 5 or 6 for use as a medicine.
10. A process of preparing a compound as described in claim 5, characterized by, reacting an intermediate of formula (II) wherein W⁻ is an appropriate counter ion or a functional derivative thereof with an intermediate of formula (III) in a reaction-inert solvent, in the presence of a suitable base and optionally in the presence of potassium iodide;



- 25 and, if desired, converting the compounds of formula (I), into an acid addition salt by treatment with an acid, or into a base addition salt by treatment with a base, or conversely, converting the acid addition salt form into the free base by treatment with alkali, or converting the base addition salt into the free acid by treatment with acid; and, if desired, preparing *N*-oxide and/or stereochemically isomeric forms thereof.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

national Application No
PCT/EP 99/01308

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 C07D487/04 A61K31/445 C07D471/04 C07D405/06 C07D401/04
C07D513/04 C07D405/14 C07D401/06 C07D211/14 C07D211/18
C07D211/30 C07D211/58 C07D211/88 C07D401/12 C07D211/34

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 C07D A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3 714 159 A (JANSSEN P ET AL) 30 January 1973 cited in the application see claim 1; examples ---	5-9
X	JANSSENS, FRANS ET AL: "New antihistaminic N-heterocyclic 4-piperidinamines. 1. Synthesis and antihistaminic activity of N-(4-piperidinyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-amines " J. MED. CHEM. (1985), 28(12), 1925-33 ; ISSN: 0022-2623, XP002074741 see page 5; examples 28,47 --- -/-	5,7-9

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

31 May 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

10/06/1999

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De Jong, B

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

national Application No

PCT/EP 99/01308

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 C07D417/12 C07D211/22 C07D417/06 C07D417/04 C07D417/14
C07D409/14 C07D413/12 A61K31/495

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JANSSENS, FRANS ET AL: "New antihistaminic N-heterocyclic 4-piperidinamines. 3. Synthesis and antihistaminic activity of N-(4-piperidinyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2- amines" J. MED. CHEM. (1985), 28(12), 1943-7 ; ISSN: 0022-2623, XP002104126 see example 22	5,7-9
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X	EP 0 219 898 A (JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA NV) 29 April 1987 see claim 1	5-9
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De Jong, B

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP 99/01308

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	US 4 695 575 A (JANSSENS FRANS E ET AL) 22 September 1987 see claim 1; example 43 ---	5,7-9
X	MACKERER C R ET AL: "ANTIDIARRHEAL AND CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM ACTIVITIES OF SC-27166 (2 - 3-5-METHYL-1,3,4-OXADIAZOL-2-YL)-3,3-DIPHE NYLPROPYL-2- AZABICYCLO 2.2.2OCTANE), A NEW ANTIDIAR-RHEAL AGENT, RESULTING FROM BINDING TO OPIATE RECEPTOR SITES OF BRAIN AND MYENTERIC PLEXUS" JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS, vol. 203, no. 3, 1 December 1977, pages 527-538, XP000670177 see page 536, left-hand column, line 3 - line 6 ---	1-3,5-9
A	WO 97 45423 A (TROPHIX PHARM INC) 4 December 1997 see abstract -----	1

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